

**AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR BONDING
AN ACRYLIC SURFACE TO A FRAME**

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A basketball backboard assembly and a method of making
the backboard assembly are disclosed. The assembly includes
a backboard frame structure and an acrylic backboard which
are bonded together with a suitable elastomeric adhesive,
such as a silicone adhesive, providing adequate adhesion and
flexibility. The elastomeric adhesive has a bond gap in the
10 range from about 2 to 2.5 mm. The adhesive is catalyzed to
provide control of the set time in the range from about 5
minutes to 1 hour. A plurality of bond gap spacers are
located between the frame bonding surface and the backboard
bonding surface to provide the bond gap.